

# Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

DDMHS, Weeks Building, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury, VT 05671-1601 (802-241-2638)

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project  
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani  
Sheila Pomeroy

DATE: December 1, 2000

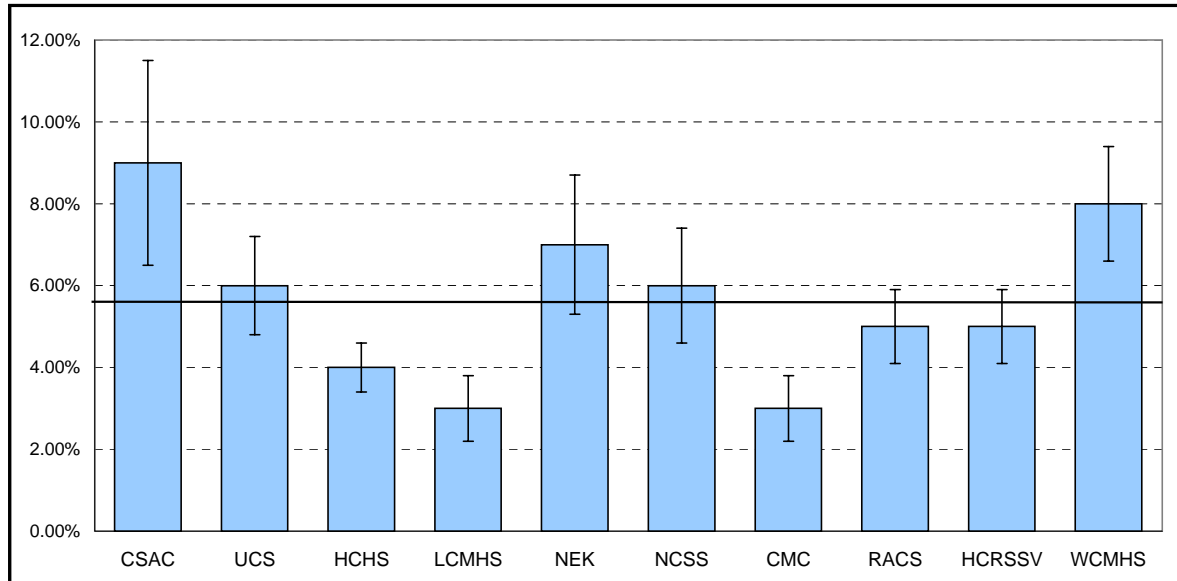
RE: Mental Health Service Utilization by People with Depression

This past September you received a series of weekly reports that focused on community mental health service utilization by a number of different target populations. This series followed on recommendations by the Vermont Performance Indicator Advisory Group regarding indicators of access to care. This week's report continues that series by providing information on the proportion of people with depression in each of Vermont's ten service areas who received services from their local community mental health center. Estimates of the number of residents of each service area who have depression are based on responses to an ongoing health status and risk survey conducted by the Vermont Department of Health. The methodology is described in detail in Rost, Burnham & Smith, "Development of screeners for depressive disorders and substance disorder history" in Medical Care, 31 (3) 189-200. The number of people receiving mental health services for depression was determined on the basis of diagnosis codes reported to DDMHS in monthly service reports.

As you will see, community mental health programs served between 5 and 6% of the estimated 63,000 people with depression in Vermont during 1999. There was substantial variation in the proportion of people with depression served by community mental health centers in different parts of the state. Community mental health programs for adults in Addison and Washington Counties met a somewhat greater proportion of the estimated need than the statewide median. Community mental health programs for adults in Chittenden, Lamoille, and Orange Counties met a somewhat smaller proportion of the estimated need than the statewide median.

We look forward to your comments on this measure of access to care, and the measures that were distributed earlier this fall. Please feel free to contact us at 802-241-2638 or [jpandiani@ddmhs.state.vt.us](mailto:jpandiani@ddmhs.state.vt.us).

## Adult Mental Health Service Utilization by People with Depression FY1999



Region/Provider		Total Residents FY 1999 With Depression	People Receiving MH Care For Depression	Percent Receiving MH Care for Depression
Addison	- CSAC	3,135 ± 829	295	9% ± 2.5%
Bennington	- UCS	3,915 ± 783	230	6% ± 1.2%
Chittenden	- HCHS	15,833 ± 2,388	628	4% ± 0.6%
Lamoille	- LCMHS	2,586 ± 716	72	3% ± 0.8%
Northeast	- NEK	6,803 ± 1,735	448	7% ± 1.7%
Northwest	- NCSS	5,185 ± 1,188	311	6% ± 1.4%
Orange	- CMC	3,738 ± 1,038	111	3% ± 0.8%
Rutland	- RACS	6,520 ± 1,070	354	5% ± 0.9%
Southeast	- HCRSSV	8,907 ± 1,657	450	5% ± 0.9%
Washington	- WCMHS	6,388 ± 1,122	497	8% ± 1.4%
Total		63,010 ± 4,262	3,396	
Median				5.7%

Estimates of the number of residents of each service area who have depression are based on responses to an ongoing health status and risk survey conducted by the Vermont Department of Health.

Active adult caseload includes all people assigned to a CRT or Adult Outpatient program who received at least one community mental health service during FY 1999.